



## BISHOP WILTON C. E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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### **Newsletter 15**

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school. We hope that you all enjoyed the lovely weather over the Easter holiday. Apparently it is set to continue throughout the Summer!

#### **Young Writer's Competition Success!**

The junior class were studying Poetry last term. It was decided to enter their poetry work in the Young Writers Little Laureates Poetry Competition. Poems were selected for publication based on perception, imagination, expression, good use of language and interpretation of poetry. The spirit of the poem is also taken into account along with the writer's age. Ten of our pupils have had their poems selected to be published in the book *'Little Laureates North Yorkshire'*. The book is due to be published on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2007. Parents may order a copy if they would like to. A complimentary copy will come into school. Pupils who did not have their work selected were sent a 'little Laureates' book mark. Congratulations to the following pupils. Their work will be published in the *'Little Laureates North Yorkshire'* book:

Edward – 'Cadbury World'  
William C– 'Henry VIII and his.....,'  
Louis – 'Henry VIII and his...'  
Grace – 'The Wind'  
Matthew – 'The Tudors'  
Daniel – 'My Friend Maisy'  
Philippa – ' Funny Animals'  
Jimmy – 'On a Nice Sunny Day'  
Harry – 'Animals'  
Stephen – 'Rugby'

#### **Burnby Hall Gardens Visit – Major Stewart Art Competition**

The Reception, Year 1 and 2 pupils enjoyed an afternoon at Burnby Hall Gardens last week. The school usually enters the Major Stewart Art Awards. The visit will hopefully inspire our young artists to better the highly commended certificate we were awarded two years ago for the quality of our entries. The visit was also linked with the Key Stage One Curriculum.

#### **Visiting Teachers from Norway**

We were approached a few weeks ago by the authority to be a host school for a party of Norwegian primary school teachers. The teachers were in school last Thursday morning, observing lessons, asking and answering questions and note taking. The purpose of the visit was to explore best practice in English schools, and observe new technology in action. The teachers were very impressed with the manners and behaviour of the children in school and their intelligent questions. They also picked up some new ideas for teaching classes through our excellent ICT facilities. Thank you to all members of our school family for sharing what is special about our school with our foreign visitors. They have so much to share and talk about when they return to their school in Norway! The Headteacher Anne Svenson would like to create a web link between our schools and I have agreed.

### **School Gardening Project**

Mrs Boyce, Mrs Throssel and I had a meeting last term to discuss ways to get a school gardening project started. We are hoping to attend some training later in the term and are eager to find parents and grandparents who would be willing to help with a gardening club or similar. If you are interested please let us know.

### **Primary National Strategy Network Training Day- Developing Writing**

On Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April, Mrs Clark, Mrs Mackenzie, Mrs Sullivan and I attended a Primary National Strategy Network training day. The theme and purpose of the day was to inspire staff to develop good quality creative writing with pupils. We were able to access this quality training through our participation in a small schools network (six local small schools). We are working together to target the improvement of pupils' writing. The children have already shown some improvement in their writing content and we will be hoping to follow this up with further targeted support. In a similar way the schools are working together to develop the work of maths groups.

### **Summer Fair**

The Friends of Bishop Wilton School met recently and a date has been confirmed for the Summer Fair. This year it will take place on **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June from 2-4 pm**. Any offers of help or ideas for fundraising games will be most welcome. Please see any member of the current committee. Thanks to the members of the committee for their time and commitment. New members and offers of help will be warmly received.

### **Picnic Bench Fund Raising**

It is hoped that if the above fair is successful enough funds will be raised to buy two new picnic benches for the children. Please support the Summer Fair in any way you can.

### **Library Improvements**

The second phase of improvements to our school library will begin during the summer. The lighting in the library will be improved, the radiators will be moved to free up more wall space and it is hoped that the whole room will be redesigned with suitable wall units to be more effectively used as a multi purpose area.

### **Junior Class Organisation 2007-2008**

You will be aware no doubt that as the school's profile in the locality has been raised and more interest about our 'little' school has been generated, our incoming numbers in reception and other year groups have increased. This means that next year in September we will have 25 children in the junior classroom. One of the reasons parents choose to send their children here is for the favourable adult/pupil ratio. In order to maintain this quality of provision we intend to increase staffing to enable the children to be taught in two groups for mathematics and some aspects of Literacy where useful. Mrs Digby will remain on our staff working 20 hours per week as a teaching assistant in the junior classroom. Also, I will be employing an additional teacher for 2 full mornings per week sharing the class with Mrs Clark for one morning per week and sharing with me for one morning per week. Hopefully, if the library refit goes to plan, the children can be taught in separate areas to promote good levels of concentration.

### **Pupil Numbers Increase**

Our forecast for pupil numbers based on parents asking for their child's name to be added to our lists and entering through the Foundation Stage Unit shows the following:

Autumn Term 2007	41 + 8 part time in the Nursery (full time equivalent = 46)
Spring Term 2008	41 + 9 part time in the Nursery (full time equivalent = 46.5)
Summer Term 2008	41 +10 part time in the Nursery (full time equivalent = 47)
Autumn Term 2008	45 +10 part time in the Nursery (full time equivalent = 50)
Spring Term 2009	45 + 10 part time in the Nursery (full time equivalent = 50)

These figures make no prediction of children joining us or leaving us in other year groups. They are based on admission into Foundation Stage.

### **Sun Screen and Hats**

As the days get warmer the children will need to be properly protected from the sunlight. Please apply sunscreen before they come to school, supply a named hat that protects the face and back of the neck and a named bottle of water to drink. Members of school staff are not permitted to apply the sun lotion. Please send in a named bottle of sun cream/sun spray and show your child how to apply it themselves.

### **Complaints Policy**

The Governors and I recently reviewed a large number of school policies. These are available for parents to read in the school office and some will soon be accessible through our web site. One of our governors suggested that our complaints policy should be freely available to parents. Thankfully we have very few formal complaints and any informal (unwritten complaints) are usually resolved quickly. The complaints policy is the next point of reference after a matter has not been fully resolved to a parent's satisfaction after speaking with the teacher concerned and the head teacher informally. If you feel a matter has not been resolved to your satisfaction after speaking to the teacher or member of staff concerned and then to the head teacher, you will need to follow the procedure set out in the complaints policy which is now in the school office on the notice board.

### **Targets Leaflet**

Please find attached your child's Mathematics targets leaflet for the Summer Term.

### **Parent/Governors Annual Meeting and ICT Event**

The Governors and I would like to host an informal evening when parents are invited to come into school and find out more about our ICT facilities and informally discuss school activities. We intend to invite the parents of our Reception intake September 07 and hope the event will be well attended. The proposed date is **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2007 at 7.00pm**

### **Meeting about Educational Visit to Peak Venture**

A meeting to discuss the Residential Trip to Peak Venture will be held on **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> June at 3.15pm in school**. We will go through what clothing the children should take and the activities they will do when there. Please try to attend if you can, but if you are unable to attend you will be given a copy of the minutes anyway.

### **Curriculum Information for Summer 2007**

**Topics for Foundation Stage:** Journeys

#### **Topics for Key Stage 1:**

Water - Science : Plants and Animal Habitats  
History : Famous People i.e. Major Stewart/David Livingstone  
Geography : Parkland, Seaside – Kenya  
Literacy : Poetry, Recounts, Stories by J. Burningham  
Art : Water theme

#### **Topics for Key Stage 2:**

Geography – Contrasting UK Locality  
Science – The Human Body  
Literacy – Narrative writing, letter writing, performance and humorous poetry, explanations and note taking. Developing a joined and fluent handwriting style.  
Numeracy – Addition and subtraction, mental calculation, strategies, pencil and paper procedures, measures, shape and space. Understanding x and -, fractions and handling data.  
P.E. – Games and Athletics.  
Music – Learning to play the recorder, 'composition' and improvisation.

### **Key Dates for your Diary – Summer Term 2007**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday – School is closed
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	KS2 S.A.T.'s Week
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Governors Meeting @ 7.30 pm
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Headteacher's Parents Surgery
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	KS2 Sharing Assembly School closes at 3.15 pm for Half-Term
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	School re-opens
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	KS2 Parents meeting re Educational Visit to Peak Venture at 3.15 pm
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Headteacher's Parents Surgery
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	Whole School Trip to Bridlington – more details later
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	KS2 Educational Visit to Peak Venture
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Afternoon @ 1.45 pm
Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Summer Fair 2 – 4 pm
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Headteacher's Parents Surgery
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	KS1 Sharing Assembly
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Parent/Governor Annual Meeting and ICT Event @ 7.00 pm
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Indigo Moon Theatre Visit 'Alice and the White Rabbit' @ 1.30 pm in the Village Hall
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	School closes at 3.15 pm for the Summer
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	School re-opens

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Halley

Enc: Mathematics Target Leaflet